

Claims

1. A method for treating neuropathy in patients suffering from diabetes comprising administering to the patient a statin drug.
2. A method for improving nerve conduction velocity or nerve blood flow in a patient suffering diabetic neuropathy comprising administering to the patient a statin drug.
3. Use of a statin drug in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of diabetic neuropathy.
4. Use of a statin drug in the preparation of a medicament for use in the improvement of nerve conduction velocity or nerve blood flow in a patient having diabetic neuropathy.
5. A method as claimed in either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the statin drug is selected from pravastatin, simvastatin, cerivastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin and (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
6. Use as claimed in either claim 3 or claim 4 wherein the statin drug is selected from pravastatin, simvastatin, cerivastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin and (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
7. A method as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 5 wherein the statin drug is used in combination with at least one other drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes.
8. A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes is selected from insulin, troglitazone, rosiglitazone, pioglitazone, MCC-555, (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid and 3-{4-[2-(4-*tert*-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic

acid, glimepiride, glibenclamide, gliclazide, glipizide, gliquidone and tolazamide, metformin, acarbose and repaglinide.

9. Use as claimed in claim 3, 4 or 6 wherein the statin drug is used in combination with at least one other drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes.

10. Use as claimed in claim 9 wherein the drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes is selected from insulin, troglitazone, rosiglitazone, pioglitazone, MCC-555, (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid and 3-{4-[2-(4-*tert*-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid, glimepiride, glibenclamide, gliclazide, glipizide, gliquidone and tolazamide, metformin, acarbose and repaglinide.

11. A method as claimed in claim 2 or 5 wherein the statin drug is used in combination with a second drug which is also useful in improving nerve conduction velocity in a patient suffering diabetic neuropathy.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the second drug is selected from an aldose reductase inhibitor, an ACE inhibitors and an AII antagonist.

13. A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the second drug is selected from epalrestat, tolrestat, ponolrestat, zopolrestat, AD-5467, SNK-860, ADN-138, AS-3201, zenarestat, sorbinil, methosorbinil, imirestat and minalrestat (WAY-121509), benazepril, benazeprilat, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, imidopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, perindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, trandolapril, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, losartan, irbesartan, valsartan and candesartan.

14. Use as claimed in either claim 3 or 6 wherein the statin drug is used in combination with a second drug which is also useful in improving nerve conduction velocity in a patient suffering diabetic neuropathy.

15. A method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the second drug is selected from an aldose reductase inhibitor, an ACE inhibitors and an AII antagonist.

16. A method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the second drug is selected from epalrestat, tolrestat, ponolrestat, zopolrestat, AD-5467, SNK-860, ADN-138, AS-3201, zenarestat, sorbinil, methosorbinil, imirestat and minalrestat (WAY-121509), benazepril, benazeprilat, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, imidopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, perindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, trandolapril, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, losartan, irbesartan, valsartan and candesartan.

17. A pharmaceutical combination comprising (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and lisinopril.

18. A pharmaceutical combination comprising (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and candesartan.

19. A pharmaceutical combination comprising (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or atorvastatin, and (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid or 3-{4-[2-(4-tert-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid

20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, lisinopril and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or atorvastatin, (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid, or 3-[4-[2-(4-*tert*-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl]-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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